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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolutions 46/82 A and B of 16 December 1991. In paragraph 12 of resolution 46/82 A, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council periodically on the development of the situation in the Middle East and to submit to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session a comprehensive report covering the developments in the Middle East. That report will be submitted separately as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council. The General Assembly, in resolution 46/82 B, which deals with the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, called upon all States to adopt a number of measures concerning relations with Israel and called upon the States concerned to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions.

2. The Secretary-General, in order to fulfil his reporting responsibility under the above-mentioned resolutions, on 13 October 1992 addressed notes verbales to the Permanent Representative of Israel and to the Permanent Representatives of the other Member States and requested them to inform him of any steps their Governments had taken or envisaged taking concerning implementation of the relevant provisions of those resolutions. As of 16 November 1992, replies had been received from Ecuador, Grenada, Israel and Tunisia. Those replies are reproduced in section II of the present report.

II. REPLIES FROM MEMBER STATES

ECUADOR

[Original: Spanish]

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in reply to his request contained in note RES 46/82-GA, has the honour to advise him that the Government of Ecuador does not provide any kind of assistance to Israel and, as regards the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, that it maintains its Embassy in Tel Aviv. Accordingly, the Government of Ecuador is in full compliance with the provisions of resolutions 46/82 A and B, adopted by the General Assembly on 16 December 1991.

GRENADA

[Original: English]

The Permanent Representative of Grenada to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note RES 46/82-GA of 13 October 1992, which refers to General Assembly resolutions 46/82 A and B.

Grenada has abided by the provisions of all United Nations resolutions relevant to the situation in the Middle East and has consistently encouraged a peaceful settlement to the problems in the Middle East.

In its statement to the General Assembly on 5 October 1992, Grenada welcomed the peace talks taking place among the key parties to the Middle East conflict and counselled continued dialogue and flexibility in order to bring lasting solutions to that region's problems.

Grenada does not envisage taking any further steps on this matter.

ISRAEL

[Original: English]

The Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the latter's note (RES 46/82-GA) of 13 October 1992 concerning resolutions 46/82 A and B on "The situation in the Middle East".

Israel has consistently voted against General Assembly resolutions under the agenda item "The situation in the Middle East", because they distort the nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict and they contradict any genuine notion of peace.

Israel is presently engaged in bilateral and multilateral face-to-face negotiations with its neighbours. One of the foundations of the current peace process is the Camp David Accords. Nevertheless, paragraph 3 of resolution 46/82 A on "The situation in the Middle East" goes so far as to refer to resolution 36/120 F of 10 December 1981, in which the General Assembly "strongly reaffirms its rejection" of various provisions of the Camp David Accords. This is a clear illustration of the anachronistic and harmful nature of the resolutions on "The situation in the Middle East".

TUNISIA

[Original: French]

The Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General and, with reference to his letter (RES 46/82-GA) of 13 October 1992, has the honour to transmit the response of the Government of Tunisia regarding measures it has taken pursuant to resolutions 46/82 A and B, which were adopted by the General Assembly under the agenda item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", as follows:

> "Pursuant to resolutions 46/82 A and B adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 1991, under the agenda item entitled 'The situation in the Middle East', Tunisia has:
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> "(1) Reaffirmed, in official statements by its leaders and in communiqués issued following meetings between heads of State and Government, the principles set forth in the above resolutions, which must serve as the basis for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement in the Middle East, namely:
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> "(a) That the question of Palestine lies at the core of the conflict in the Middle East;
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> "(b) That the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the United Nations calling for the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 must be implemented;
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> "(c) That a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the participation on an equal footing of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization;
>
> "(d) That Israel must cease its aggression and its illegal practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and outside those territories, including expropriation, establishment of settlements, repressive measures ...;

"(2) Worked closely with its partners to discourage recognition of the 'Basic Law' of Israel regarding Jerusalem;

"(3) Contributed to the drafting and adoption of resolutions reaffirming these principles at the level of regional organizations (Organization of African Unity, Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, etc. ...);

"(4) Participated in multilateral negotiations on peace in the Middle East in order to implement the principles of international law relevant to the Middle East;

"(5) Provided assistance, as needed, to the Palestinian leadership to which our country continues to act as host."